

EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 15, 2019, 7:30 PM
EAST LYME TOWN HALL

Chairman
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Secretary
Joseph Hitchery

Members Present: Steve Dinsmore, Don Landers, Joe Hitchery, Greg Murin, Don MacKenzie, Rick Kanter, Craig Mason

Members Absent: None

Ex Officios Present: None

Ex Officios Absent: Selectman Paul Dagel, Harbormaster Ron Johnson, Deputy Harbor Master Mark Berger

1. CALL TO ORDER: Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and introduced newly appointed Commissioner Craig Mason.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF June 17, 2019

MOTION: (Murin/Landers) to approve the June 17, 2019 minutes as presented. Vote: Unanimously Approved

FILED

3. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS: None

July 18 2019 AT 10:15 AM/PM
(Signature)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

4. REPORTS

A. Shellfish

Kanter reported the River was open to shell fishing and a new motor was installed on the Warden boat. He also reported the possibility of opening the entire Niantic Bay to shell fishing which will require increased testing and patrolling expense. To be discussed in August with DABA representative Alison Dragan.

B. Harbor Master

No report.

C. Treasurer

Landers reported the fiscal year ended July 1st. Check for \$90.40 received from Town of Waterford for ½ cost of Harbor Master boat repair.

D. Ex-Officio

No report.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Harbor Management Plan-Update

Public hearing is scheduled for August 7, 2019 at 7:15 PM at East Lyme Town Hall.

B. Possible Port Authority Grant

Application deadline was June 12, 2019.

C. Future Shellfish Restoration Projects

Dinsmore sent a letter to DEEP stating the Commission's concerns about the proposed LIS Blue Plan's negative impact on local regulatory authority and jurisdiction.

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6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Correspondence

COP from Docko for groin restoration at Black Point Beach Club Association.

B. Blue Plan

Chairman's letter (attached) reviewed as noted above.

7. FINAL COMMENTS:

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Landers/Murin) to adjourn at 8:01 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Joe Hitchery

Secretary

Attachment: Chairman Dinsmore June 19, 2019 letter to LIS Blue Plan, DEEP WPLR



TOWN OF EAST LYME
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East Lyme Harbor Management/Shellfish Commission
108 Pennsylvania Avenue
Niantic, CT 06357

June 19, 2019

LIS Blue Plan
DEEP WPLR
Land and Water Resources Division – Planning
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Long Island Sound Blue Plan.

Our commission became aware of the Blue Plan during the inventory phase. We supported this effort by taking stock of the resources within East Lyme waters of Long Island Sound. At that time, the plan was described to be focused on preserving state resources, while coordinating and integrating management of state resources with local regulatory authorities.

Our commission has concerns that the scope of the Blue Plan will infringe on our local regulatory authority and jurisdiction. We have spent countless hours working to develop, update, and maintain our Harbor Management Plan, which is approved by DEEP and by the Town of East Lyme through local ordinances. We have also developed a Shellfish Management Plan, approved by the State and Town, for managing local shellfishing activities. We believe, as Town appointed subject matter experts, we have greater insight into the local resources and water-related issues within our Town waters. We also have concerns with aspects of the Blue Plan infringing Town waters, particularly as defined by the 'Offshore waters' definition, and the impact that may have on local fisheries and marinas.

We respectfully request that these issues be considered before the Blue Plan is finalized.

Sincerely,

Stephen Dinsmore
Chairman, East Lyme Harbor Management Shellfish Commission.